

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

On page 1, please amend the list of inventors as follows:

SUNIL CHADA

JOHN B. MUMM

~~RAMESH RAJAGOPAL~~ RAJAGOPAL RAMESH

ABNER M. MHASHILKAR

RAYMOND E. MEYN

ELIZABETH GRIMM

On page 45, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 9 through 27 as follows:

The *mda-7* cDNA (SEQ ID NO:1) encodes a novel, evolutionarily conserved protein of 206 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:2) with a predicted size of 23.8 kDa. The deduced amino acid sequence contains a hydrophobic stretch from about amino acid 26 to 45, which has characteristics of a signal sequence. The protein sequence shows no significant homology to known proteins with the exception of a 42 amino acid stretch that is 54% identical to interleukin 10 (IL-10). Structural analysis has determined that MDA-7 (IL-BKW or IL-20) displays the structural characteristics of the cytokine family (WO 98/28425, incorporated herein by reference). The structural characteristics and limited identity across a small stretch of amino acids implies an extracellular function for MDA-7. The expression of MDA-7 is inversely correlated with melanoma progression as demonstrated by increased mRNA levels in normal melanocytes as compared to primary and metastatic melanomas as well as decreased MDA-7 expression in early vertical growth phase melanoma cells selected for enhanced tumor formation in nude mice. Additional information and data regarding MDA-7 can be found in patent

application serial numbers 09/615,154, 10/017,472, 60/404,932, 60/370,335, 60/361,755 and the U.S. non-provisional patent application entitled “Methods for Enhancing Immune Induction Involving MDA-7” filed on March 3, 2003 with serial number 10/378,590, in the name of Sunil Chada, Abujiang Pataer, Abner Mhashilkar, Rajagopal Ramesh, Jack Roth, and Steve Swisher, all of which applications are herein incorporated by reference in their entireties.